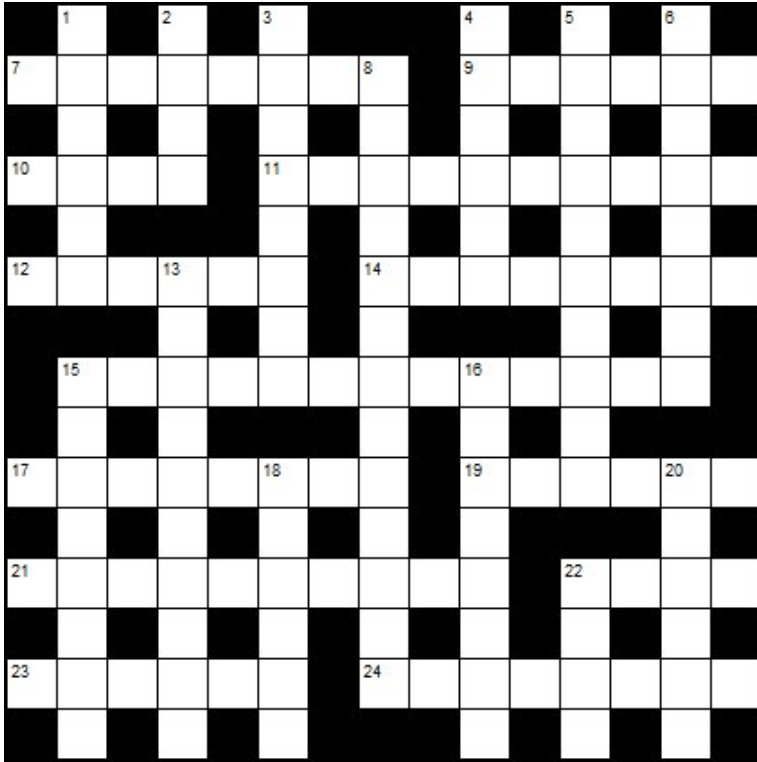


Puzzle by Fiddlesticks

This puzzle from Fiddlesticks contains some very ingenious and amusing clues. I particularly liked 19 and 23 across and 5 down.



ACROSS

- 7 Poet with liquor restrained after sinking over a gallon (8)
- 9 Index portfolio holding foreign transaction (6)
- 10 Girl at day's end for company (4)
- 11 Parrot copied Chopin playing, with various voices (10)
- 12 Agreement is a thing of little value when spoken (6)
- 14 Flyer and his art? (8)
- 15 Echo on gyro log changed science (13)
- 17 Spotted heroin in wood frame (8)
- 19 It's a girl! That'll make the paper (6)
- 21 Insolence from very loud Emily, perhaps, losing head in US drama on fourth of July (10)
- 22 Slap hysterical one of 18 (4)
- 23 Sound of a rubber cushion that's worn? (6)
- 24 Deterioration of eye problem when one mark comes back internally (8)

DOWN

- 1 Grips shrubs, heading off (6)
- 2 One timid and pale (4)
- 3 Kill in haste (8)
- 4 Moderate composure (6)
- 5 On high right before row over notes gets noisy (10)
- 6 With terrible fury, lift insect (5-3)
- 8 Back to steal vehicle remotes, scrambled with electrical equipment (13)
- 13 Glamorous, holding her millions, radiating warmth (10)
- 15 Flyers lifting whenever tourer goes round murals (8)
- 16 Detached, dismissed – deceitful (8)
- 18 Alternative angers 22 across and others (6)
- 20 Snobbish – increase compassion (6)
- 22 Troubles from tail-spin (4)